Wildlife Corridors for Flood Escape on the Yolo Bypass



In 2016, the Sacramento San-Joaquin Delta Conservancy's Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program awarded \$693,196 to the Yolo County Resource Conservation District to install wildlife corridors and a demonstration planting area in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area.

Project Description:

This project construct two new wildlife escape corridors that stretch across the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area for approximately five miles. The corridors are designed to have a smaller footprint and a negligible effect on the flood capacity of the Yolo Bypass. They will provide cover to help deer, furbearers, and other wildlife escape rising water levels and move to higher ground during a flood event. They will also provide new and enhanced year round habitat for a variety of nesting birds and pollinators.

Through the use of wildlife monitoring cameras, the Yolo County Resource Conservation District (RCD) will monitor wildlife use of the corridors to help inform ongoing management of the project and the design and construction of future corridors.

This project also includes a half-acre demonstration planting area, located next to one of the main parking sites in the bypass, that will showcase native floodplain meadow and riparian woodland habitat.

There will be 12 community volunteer stewardship events, and three field days for high school students to increase awareness of the importance of the Yolo Bypass Area and wildlife corridors.

This project broke ground in May 2017 and is expected to be finished in February 2022.

Funding Partners:

Yolo County RCD, US Department of Agriculture National Resource Conservation Service, Putah Creek Council, Center for Land Based Learning, and Yolo Basin Foundation.

For More Information:

For more information about this project, visit ecoatlas.org. For more information about the Conservancy's Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality grant program, visit http://deltaconservancy.ca.gov/prop-1/.



Mule Deer Buck. Photo Credit: Barbara Wheeler



